



## I AM NAVY MEDICINE: PERSONNEL SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS BRIANA MARLIN

Not all the enlisted Sailors in Navy Medicine are hospital corpsman. Meet Personnel Specialist 1st Class Briana Marlin.

The Caldwell, Idaho native is assigned to Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command (NMRTC) Bremerton.

Shortly after graduating from Caldwell Senior High School, Marlin headed to the recruiting office to continue her family's military service.

"When I decided to join the Navy, it was to see the world and continue my education," said Marlin "I have a long line of family members who served. That was something I was very proud of and wanted to follow in their footsteps."

Seeing the world is exactly what Marlin has been able to do. Two deployments aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) provided Marlin the opportunity to visit such foreign destinations as Bahrain, Dubai, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

"Those two things – seeing the world and furthering my education – were accomplished with being in five different countries during deployments and receiving my Bachelor of Arts in Health Care Administration in July 2019," she said.

At this point in her career, Marlin was not yet in the Navy Medicine community. Her journey there was unexpected but life-changing.

"What wasn't in my plan was falling in love and marrying my best friend," she said. "We went on two deployments together and on April 25, 2017, he proposed to me at the top of Diamond Head in Hawaii and our adventure together has been going since. I couldn't imagine doing this Navy thing with anybody else."

According to the Navy Personnel Command website, military couples may not be permanently assigned to the same ship or the same shipboard deployable command. There is a spouse co-location program that allows married military members be assigned in the same geographic area.

"Honestly, Navy Medicine wasn't in my view but being co-located with my husband put on the USS Nimitz, and I was told I would be coming to NMRTC Bremerton," explained Marlin. "After getting here, I got to see what it was like and my ultimate goal is to put in an officer package through the Medical Service Corps In-Service Procurement Program (MSC-IPP) so I can continue to better Navy Medicine."

MSC-IPP allows active duty Sailors an opportunity to become commissioned as an officer in the medical field. Members who are chosen are given formal college training in areas such as health care administration, physician assistance, environmental health, radiation health, industrial hygiene, pharmacy, occupational therapy, and social work.

Since being assigned to NMRTC Bremerton, some of the many hats Marlin has worn are assistant leading petty officer, personnel supervisor in the Human Resources Department, assistant sponsor coordinator and assistance command fitness leader.

"This being my first assignment in Navy Medicine, I have enjoyed it here," said Marlin. "I have met some great people who have become mentors and friends to me. I picked up rank while here, finished my degree in Health Care Administration here and am in the process of working on a commissioning package for MSC-IPP."

Right now, she serves as an assistant career counselor at NMRTC Bremerton. When asked how her duty contributes to the Navy surgeon general's priority of operational readiness Marlin said, "By continuing to help Sailors with their career paths and continue to improve retention efforts within the hospital and surrounding clinics."

When asked to sum up her experience with Navy Medicine in one sentence, Marlin replied, "My experience with Navy Medicine has been eventful and rewarding and has allowed for me to succeed in multiple aspects of my life and career."